



APRIL 2014



SAN DIEGO HEALTHCARE DISASTER COUNCIL

This Month in the Council



The citizens of San Diego count on us to be prepared in the event of a disaster. We as the San Diego Healthcare Disaster Council and support services proudly accept this challenge

Contacts

Co-Chair SDHDC
Dale White
Sharp Healthcare
Dale.White@Sharp.com

Co-Chair SDHDC
Susan Erbs, R.N.,
Scripps Health
Erbs.Susan.@scrippshealth.org

San Diego County
Red Cross
(858) 309-1200

San Diego County
OES/EOC
oes@sdcounty.ca.gov

For feedback, additions, or questions, please contact:

Amy Trujillo
Amy.Trujillo@sdcounty.ca.gov

Each month at the Healthcare Disaster Council, disaster preparedness professionals come together for in-depth, passionate dialogue about a range of topics. Here's a glimpse at some of the discussion in March:

- The scenario and objectives have been determined for the November Statewide Medical Health Exercise. The scenario will be Mers Cov and the objectives being focused on will be pediatric surge, communications, operational coordination and volunteer management.
- International Association of Healthcare Security and Safety (IAHSS) is having their 46th Annual General Membership Meeting May 18-21, 2014 in San Diego.
- There will be a week long exercise on City Readiness Initiative (CRI) in November 2015 as part of the Statewide Medical Health full scale exercise.
- Nick Vent gave a presentation on San Diego decon resources. Mr. Vent has retired.

Trainings and Drills

Hospital Exercise

April 9, 2014
6pm to 9pm

Statewide Medical Health Exercise **November 20, 2014**

Joint EOC / WebEOC Workshops

Agenda:

9:00 - 10:30: SEMS/NIMS Introduction
10:30 - 11:30: WebEOC Overview
11:30 - 12:30: WebEOC Subject Specific
12:30 - 1:30: Lunch (on your own)
1:30 - 4:30: EOC Section Specific

Available Dates:

July 17, 2014 (Planning-Intel Section)
September 25, 2014 (Finance Section)
Registration is available via email at:
WebEOC@sdcounty.ca.gov. Please include your contact information and specify which *dates* and which *segments* you would like to attend.



SAN DIEGO HEALTHCARE DISASTER COUNCIL



This Month's Focus

Pre-disaster Power Planning by: Bennett Cummings

On September 8th, 2011 at approximately 3:40pm, a widespread power outage spread across San Diego County and throughout much of the Southwest. Power was eventually restored throughout the night and the next morning. While some dealt with horrific traffic and stuck elevators, others met neighbors at impromptu street parties and many took it as a wake-up call to increase their preparedness in case the next outage lasted not just hours, but days or even weeks.

Even before the 2011 Blackout, the County of San Diego Office of Emergency Services (OES) had been working on assessing regional power needs for critical infrastructure and key resources, as well as means of meeting those needs in times of disruption. With the widespread nature of the outage, and through the work of "Lifelines Committees" focusing on the interdependency of Water, Wastewater, Natural Gas, Fuel, and Power services, many additional facilities and vulnerabilities were identified.

While some facilities by law, regulation, policy, or best practice have onsite emergency generators, it quickly became apparent that many other facilities didn't. Additionally, there were a limited number of portable power generators in the region of suitable size and design to meet the needs of impacted facilities.

For smaller scale emergencies of limited duration, those impacted may be able to meet their power needs through their own assets, local rental agencies, or even through coordination with the County Medical Operations Center (MOC) and/or the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) as appropriate.

In the event of a large scale catastrophic disaster, with disruption lasting days and weeks, mobile power generation may be supplied in a number of ways from sources near and far, from local power suppliers, heavy equipment rental companies and sellers, to local, state, and federal government resources, including support from the military. Local, state, and federal emergency managers must prioritize the distribution of their available generators with an emphasis on life safety.

Just as important as the equipment and fuel needed for the emergency power generation, are the knowledge, skills, and experience of the electricians that support the site assessment, installation, maintenance, and demobilization of those generators. Installation and connection of generators is dependent on matching connections as well as devices and facilities being properly wired to receive generator power.

To expedite the sourcing of emergency generators and to support those tasked with their installation, County OES has been using the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' "Emergency Power Facility Assessment Tool" (EPFAT) to develop a database of essential information needed on critical infrastructure throughout the County with a focus on hospitals, and water/wastewater utilities.

The EPFAT database provides a password protected offsite repository of the critical information needed to quickly assess and meet a facility's power needs once prioritized for restoration. To populate this database County OES developed a series of surveys to gather the necessary information. Additionally the California Hospital Association has been working statewide to capture the similar information from hospitals outside the County.

County OES has recently completed transferring the hospital survey results into the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' database, and is working with the California Hospital Association so they will also have the results on hand.

You can learn more about the Emergency Power Facility Assessment Tool on the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' website at: <http://epfat.swf.usace.army.mil/Welcome.aspx> and view a 12 minute tutorial video here: <http://youtu.be/kq2CaSSRYV8>.